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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

SHAWN HUSS, a single man, and  
others similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

SPOKANE COUNTY, a municipal  
corporation,

Defendant.

)  
) Case No.: CV-05-180-FVS  
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)  
)

) PLAINTIFF'S MEMORANDUM OF  
) AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT OF  
) MOTION FOR PARTIAL SUMMARY  
) JUDGMENT

) CLASS ACTION CERTIFICATION  
) PENDING  
)  
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**I. INTRODUCTION**

COMES NOW the Plaintiff, Shawn Huss, on his own behalf and on behalf of the class of similarly situated individuals from whom an intake fee was seized by Spokane County without due process of law. Plaintiff requests that this Court find that Spokane County's official booking fee policy and RCW 70.48.390 are facially unconstitutional in that they unlawfully allow Spokane County to deprive persons of their property without due process of law in violation of their rights under the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments of the U.S. Constitution. Plaintiff has filed a motion to certify the class which is pending before this Court.

## II. FACTS

On or about May 14, 1999 the Washington legislature passed RCW 70.48.390, amending RCW 70.48, which authorized city, county, and regional jails to take a \$10.00 booking fee from the person of each individual booked. (SHB 1143 (1999)) . See Ex. A, attached to the Dec. of Breean Beggs in Support, filed herewith. On or about May 7, 2003, the 58<sup>th</sup> legislature of Washington amended RCW 70.48.390 to allow jails to increase the booking fee to their actual booking cost or \$100.00, whichever is less. (SHB 1232 (2003)). RCW 70.48.390. Id. The statute authorizes the fee to be taken “immediately from any money then possessed by the person being booked.” RCW 70.48.390. The statute does not provide any provision for either a pre-or-post deprivation hearing before the money is taken. Id. On or about November 19, 2003, Lt. Edee Hunt and Tim O’Brien, the Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, sent a memorandum to the Spokane Board of County Commissioners regarding the collection of booking fees. Id. On or about February 24, 2004, the Spokane County Board of Commissioners passed resolution 04-0160 which authorizes the Spokane County Jail to develop and implement a procedure to collect a booking fee from persons booked in the Spokane County Jail in accordance with RC. 70.48.390. Id.

Pursuant to Spokane County Resolution 04-0160, the Spokane County Jail adopted an official policy authorizing the collection of an intake fee. Inmates are

1 charged the actual jail booking cost, calculated at \$89.12 as of August 2004. See  
2 Ex. A and B, Dec. of Beggs. The official policy allows fees to be taken directly  
3 from the person of the inmate at the time of booking. If the person does not have  
4 adequate fees on his or her person at the time of booking, a charge is assessed to  
5 the person's account. Spokane's policy does not provide for a pre-deprivation  
6 hearing or any other opportunity for the inmate to contest the seizure of his/her  
7 money. Nor does Spokane County have any policy in place to determine whether  
8 the funds are exempt public benefits or the property of a third party. Id. Spokane  
9 adopted a reimbursement policy that places the burden on the inmate to prove that  
10 the charges were dropped or that he was acquitted in order to redeem his funds.  
11 Specifically, the policy states "...it is your responsibility to provide the proof from  
12 the Courts that your charges have been dismissed or you have been acquitted" and  
13 that only upon an investigation by the Spokane County Jail Staff *may* the  
14 individual receive his/her funds back. (emphasis added). See Ex. C, Dec. of  
15 Beggs. Prior to enacting its booking fee, Spokane County contacted at least five  
16 other Washington counties to research how they implemented RCW 70.48.390.  
17 See Ex. D, Dec. of Beggs. At least one county chose not to implement a booking  
18 fee because of potential constitutional conflicts; several other counties that had  
19 enacted booking fee policies were clearly illegal because they did not return the  
20 money if the person was not convicted. Id. The official booking fee policy  
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1 number 2.00.00, as described above, was implemented on May 5, 2004. See Ex.  
2 B, Dec. of Beggs. On or about October 31, 2004, Plaintiff Shawn Huss was  
3 arrested based on a frivolous domestic violence complaint. See Exhibit A,  
4 attached to the Declaration of Shawn Huss in Support, filed herewith. He was  
5 taken to the Spokane County Jail. Upon being booked, his wallet was seized as  
6 personal property that would be returned to him upon release. Unbeknownst to  
7 Mr. Huss, Spokane County seized \$37.00 from Mr. Huss's wallet for the County's  
8 use and benefit. This was all of the money in Mr. Huss' wallet and all that he had  
9 to provide for himself and his family until his next pay check. At the time of the  
10 property seizure, Spokane County did not inform Mr. Huss that it was charging  
11 him a booking fee, that the statute mandated return of the fee upon dismissal of  
12 charges, or the process for obtaining a refund. Mr. Huss was released from the  
13 Spokane County Jail the next day, and all charges were dropped. Upon release, his  
14 funds were not returned to him, nor was he provided with Spokane County Jail's  
15 Reimbursement Form or any other means to get his funds back. Mr. Huss lives on  
16 a limited income and was dependant on the \$37.00 to feed and provide for his  
17 family until his next pay check. Id. Pursuant to Spokane County's reimbursement  
18 policy, Mr. Huss must waive his rights to any due process in order to redeem his  
19 money. See Ex. C, Dec. of Beggs. Spokane County refunded Mr. Huss's money  
20 only after receiving notice that Mr. Huss intended to initiate this action. To  
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1 date, Defendant has not refunded the interest on Mr. Huss seized money or  
2 compensated him for the deprivation of his constitutional rights.

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4 Upon belief, since May 5, 2004, Spokane County has seized hundreds of  
5 thousands of dollars from thousands of inmates at the Spokane County Jail under  
6 the same procedures used with Mr. Huss, including failure to provide an adequate  
7 pre-deprivation hearing.

### 8 9 **III. ANALYSIS**

10 Summary judgment is proper if the movant demonstrates that there is "no  
11 genuine issue of material fact and that the moving party is entitled to judgment as a  
12 matter of law." Fed. R. Civ. P. 56(c). While the party moving for summary  
13 judgment has the initial burden to show the absence of a genuine issue concerning  
14 any material fact, once that party's burden is met, the burden shifts to the non-  
15 moving party to establish existence of an issue of fact regarding an element  
16 essential to that party's case, and on which that party will bear the burden of proof  
17 at trial. Celotex Corp. v. Catrett, 477 U.S. 317, 323-24 (1986); Adickes v. S.H.  
18 Kress & Co., 398 U.S. 144, 159 (1970). Even in the light most favorable to the  
19 Defendant, there are no material facts in dispute and because reasonable minds can  
20 only reach one conclusion, the Plaintiff is entitled to a finding of liability under 42  
21 U.S.C. § 1983, against the Defendant for illegally seizing his property without due  
22 process of law in violation of his constitutionally protected rights.  
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**A. SPOKANE COUNTY'S OFFICIAL BOOKING FEE POLICY AND RCW 70.48.390 ARE FACIALLY UNCONSTITUTIONAL AND MUST BE STRUCK DOWN.**

The Defendant's official booking fee policy, enacted pursuant to Spokane County Resolution 04-0160 as authorized by RCW. 70.48.390, is facially unconstitutional in that it allows Spokane County to deprive the Plaintiff, and others similarly situated, of their property without due process of law in violation of the Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution and constitutes an unlawful taking in violation of the Fifth Amendment.

A statute may be found to be unconstitutional on its face or unconstitutional as applied. City of Redmond v. Moore, 151 Wash.2d 664, 668-69, 91 P.3d 875, 878 (2004). A statute is rendered facially unconstitutional if it cannot be constitutionally applied under any circumstance. Wash. State Republican Party v. Wash. State Pub. Disclosure Comm'n, 141 Wash.2d 245, 282, 4 P.3d 808 (2000).

A statute which is found to be facially unconstitutional is rendered totally inoperative. In re Det. of Turay, 139 Wash.2d 379, 417, 986 P.2d 790 (1999). The general rule is that if a portion of a statute is found to be invalid, the entire statute will be struck down unless the invalid portion is severable and it can be reasonably believed that the legislature would have passed the one without the other, or unless the elimination of the invalid part would render the remainder of the act incapable of accomplishing the legislative purpose. State ex rel. Distilled Spirits Institute,

1 Inc. v. Kinnear, 80 Wash.2d 175, 176-177, 492 P.2d 1012, 1013 (1972) (citations  
2 omitted).

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4 The power of the legislature to enact all reasonable laws is plenary except  
5 where it is prohibited, either expressly or by inference, by the state or federal  
6 constitution; this power extends not only to scope of laws enacted, but also to  
7 procedural means incident to their enactment. Kinnear, 80 Wash.2d at 183, 492  
8 P.2d at 1016; see also Public Utility Dist. No. 1 of Snohomish County v.  
9 Taxpayers and Ratepayers of Snohomish County, 78 Wash.2d 724, 728-29, 479  
10 P.2d 61 (1978) (“[the] state constitution is not a grant of, but limit on, the  
11 legislature's law-making power;” and courts may find restriction on legislative  
12 authority where it is expressly or fairly implied in wording of the federal or state  
13 constitution).

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16 Spokane County’s booking fee policy and RCW 70.48.390 are facially  
17 unconstitutional in that they deprive individuals of their property without due  
18 process of law and constitute an unlawful taking under the Fifth Amendment of the  
19 United States Constitution. The statute is wholly unconstitutional on its face  
20 because the taking of property from any person without a hearing is per se  
21 unconstitutional. Without the ability to take money from a person without a  
22 hearing, the statute’s entire purpose is frustrated. Because Washington courts do  
23 not allow an otherwise unconstitutional statute to be saved by reading  
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1 constitutional requirements into it that are not there, Spokane's booking fee policy  
 2 and RCW 70.48.390 are constitutionally deficient and must be struck down in their  
 3 entirety. See Olympic Forest Products v. Chausse Corp., 82 Wash. 2d 418, 434,  
 4 511 P.2d 1002 (1973).

6 **B. THE STATUTE VIOLATES MR. HUSS'S RIGHTS PROTECTED BY**  
 7 **THE DUE PROCESS CLAUSE OF THE U.S. CONSTITUTION.**

8 Due process issues arise when a person is deprived of life, liberty, or  
 9 property without due process of law. U.S. CONST. amend. XIV. Due process  
 10 questions are examined in two steps: first, whether a liberty or property interest  
 11 exists and has been interfered with by the state, and second, whether the  
 12 procedures attendant upon that deprivation were constitutionally sufficient.  
 13 Kentucky Department of Corrections v. Thompson, 490 U.S. 454, 460, 109 S.Ct.  
 14 1904, 1909, 104 L.Ed.2d 506 (1989). The "fundamental requirement of due  
 15 process is the opportunity to be heard 'at a meaningful time and in a meaningful  
 16 manner.'" Mathews v. Eldridge, 424 U.S. 319, 333, 96 S.Ct. 893, 47 L.Ed.2d 18  
 17 (1976) (quoting Armstrong v. Manzo, 380 U.S. 545, 552, 85 S.Ct. 1187, 14  
 18 L.Ed.2d 62 (1965)). Mathews established a three-part test for evaluating whether  
 19 procedural safeguards are sufficient by taking into account the following factors:  
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23 First, the private interest that will be affected by the official action;  
 24 second, the risk of an erroneous deprivation of such interest through  
 25 the procedures used, and the probable value, if any, of additional or  
 substitute procedural safeguards; and finally, the Government's  
 interest, including the function involved and the fiscal and



1 administrative burdens that the additional or substitute procedural  
2 requirement would entail.

3 Redmond, 151 Wash.2d at 669, 91 P.3d at 669 (quoting Matthews, 424 U.S.  
4 at 335).

5 It is well established that, absent exigent circumstances, both real and  
6 personal property may not be seized without due process of law. In Redmond, the  
7 Washington Supreme Court held that laws which deprived persons of their driver's  
8 licenses without a hearing were invalid under Matthews in that they deprived  
9 persons of a private interest without due process of law. Redmond, 151 Wash.2d  
10 at 677, 91 P.3d at 882. The Court mandated a pre-deprivation hearing even though  
11 the vast majority of suspensions were deemed to be appropriate.  
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13 In Tri-State Development, LTD. v. Johnston, 160 F.3d 528 (9th Cir. 1998),  
14 the Ninth Circuit held that RCW 6.25.070, which allowed for a pre-judgment writ  
15 of attachment to real property without prior notice or a hearing, was facially  
16 unconstitutional in that it violated due process. Even though the statute provided  
17 prompt notice of the seizure and the right to an early post-deprivation hearing, the  
18 Court found that it failed the Matthews test. Id. at 531. The U.S. Supreme Court  
19 has established a long line of cases, both pre-and-post Matthews, overruling  
20 statutes because they lacked sufficient safeguards to protect individual's due  
21 process rights. E.g., U.S. v. James Daniel Good Real Property, 510 U.S. 43, 114  
22 S.Ct 492, 126 L.Ed 490 (1993) (invalidating a federal government seizure of real  
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1 property due to its connection with a drug crime); North Georgia Finishing Inc. v.  
2 Di-Chem, Inc., 419 U.S. 601, 95 S.Ct. 719, 42 L.Ed.2d 751 (1975) (invalidating a  
3 Georgia garnishment statute for lack of due process); Fuentes v. Shevin, 407 U.S.  
4 67, 92 S.Ct. 1983, 32 L.Ed. 556 (1972) (overturning the prejudgment replevin laws  
5 of Florida and Pennsylvania).

7 Applying the Matthews test to the present case reveals that Spokane  
8 County's booking fee policy and RCW 70.48.390 are constitutionally deficient in  
9 that they allow the municipality to deprive individuals of an essential property  
10 right without due process of law. The first factor requires identification of the  
11 nature and weight of the private interest affected by the official action challenged.  
12 A person has a substantial property right in his or her personal money. Perhaps no  
13 other piece of property is more essential to providing basic food and shelter for  
14 one's self and one's family. Without money a person cannot pay his or her rent or  
15 mortgage, purchase food, pay for gasoline or public transportation. Under  
16 Spokane County's booking fee policy, the jail's booking agent was able to empty  
17 the Plaintiff's wallet, leaving the Plaintiff without recourse until he was able to  
18 prove that the charges against him had been dropped or that he had been acquitted.  
19 By that time it was too late as the damage had been done. As the Court stated in  
20 North Georgia Finishing, "...a bank account [is] surely a form of property...;" 419  
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1 U.S. at 606. Surely, an individual's personal funds found in his or her wallet is  
2 equally important.

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4 Several cases have found a protected property interest in both an inmate's  
5 funds voluntarily placed in a trust account and in the interest generated on those  
6 funds. In Tellis v. Godinez, 5 F.3d 1314 (9th Cir. 1993), the Court held that an  
7 inmate had a recognizable property interest in the interest earned on the funds in  
8 his "personal property fund" and that the money earned must be credited to the  
9 fund. The Ninth Circuit broadened the Tellis rule in Schneider v. California  
10 Department of Corrections, holding that there was a recognizable property interest  
11 in "all" of the interest earned on an inmate's trust account. 151 F.3d 1194, 1200-  
12 01 (9th Cir. 1998). The Washington Supreme Court adopted a similar approach in  
13 Dean v. Lehman, 143 Wash.2d 12, 35-36, 18 P.3d 523, 536 (2001) (holding that an  
14 inmate possesses a property interest in the interest earned on his inmate trust  
15 account which cannot be taken without just compensation).

16  
17 In each of the above cases the property was voluntarily placed in an inmate  
18 trust account. Meanwhile, in this case, Plaintiff's property was taken from his  
19 person without consent and without even a modicum of a hearing. Absent a  
20 hearing, an individual is without a chance to object to the taking of his property,  
21 nor is there a method of determining whether the money is being rightfully taken  
22 or is exempt in that it derives from public benefits or is the property of a third  
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1 party. Thus, a substantial risk exists that individuals, such as Mr. Huss, will be  
2 wrongly deprived of their property.

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4 In consideration of the importance of the property interest which Mr. Huss  
5 and other individuals are deprived of through Spokane County's booking fee  
6 policy, we can look at the rules regulating collection on judgments and  
7 garnishment. Funds which derive from public benefits—SSA, SSI, and TANF—  
8 are exempt from garnishment because these funds are needed to provide the  
9 necessary life support for an individual and his/her family. 42 U.S.C. § 407; see  
10 also RCW 6.27.150 (exempting up to seventy-five percent of a persons income  
11 from garnishment; RCW 6.15.040 (exempting community property from  
12 garnishment). Under these provisions a person who is subject to collection under a  
13 judgment is protected in that he/she will not be left without the means to house and  
14 feed himself/herself and his/her family.

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17 Spokane County did not consider any of this in regard to Mr. Huss. He was  
18 stripped of all of the money on his person, leaving him with nothing until his next  
19 paycheck. These statutes alone provide evidence of the substantial weight this  
20 Court should apply to Mr. Huss's property interest in his own money.  
21 Additionally, "[t]he duration of any potentially wrongful deprivation of a property  
22 interest is an important factor in assessing the impact of official action on the  
23 private interest involved." Redmond, 151 Wash.2d at 671, 91 P.3d at 879 (quoting  
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1 Mackey v. Montrym, 443 U.S. 1, 12, 99 S.Ct. 2612 (1979)). Like in Redmond,  
2 Spokane County's policy leaves the individual to his or her own devices in  
3 requesting that their property be returned. Id. ("[t]he public is left to its own  
4 devices to secure a timely hearing from a court to reverse the error.") Pursuant to  
5 Spokane County's booking fee policy and application of RCW 70.48.390, an  
6 individual whose money has been unlawfully taken must petition the County and  
7 prove that the charges against him have been dropped, or that he/ has been  
8 acquitted in order to receive his property back. This process could potentially take  
9 months, especially if the case goes to trial. Meanwhile, Spokane County is able to  
10 receive the interest generated by the confiscated funds and no part of the statute  
11 requires the return of such interest. In analyzing a due process case, once a  
12 protected property interest is found as is the case here, the Court must decide what  
13 process is due as a matter of law. Quick v. Jones, 754 F.2d 1521, 1523 (9th Cir.  
14 1984); Belnap v. Chang, 707 F.2d 1100, 1002 (9th Cir. 1983).

15 The second Matthews factor is the risk of an erroneous deprivation of the  
16 interest at stake through the procedures used and the probable value, if any, of  
17 additional or substitute safeguards. Redmond, 151 Wash.2d at 672, 91 P.3d at 879  
18 (citing Warner v. Trombetta, 348 F.Supp. 1068 (M.D.PA. 1972), aff'd 410 U.S.  
19 919, 93 S.Ct. 1392, 35 L.Ed.2583 (1973)). The central holding in both Redmond  
20 and Warner stressed that the "possibility exists that error in a conviction record  
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1 could result in the revocation of the license of an innocent motorist.” Id. Under  
2 the situations posed in each case, the respective Courts found that the lack of  
3 essential due process and the opportunity for some sort of meaningful hearing prior  
4 to the revocation of an operator’s license violated due process.  
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6 As the statutes at issue in Warner and Redmond subjected the drivers to an  
7 unreasonable risk of error, Spokane County’s booking fee policy and RCW  
8 70.48.390 also subject individuals to a deprivation of property without any due  
9 process whatsoever. Spokane County’s policy of seizing cash for intake booking  
10 fees violates Mr. Huss’s right to use of his personal property. First, it does not  
11 provide him with an opportunity to object to the taking of his property and to assert  
12 a reason, such as indigent status or its source as government benefits or any other  
13 exemption outlined above, that would prevent the County from taking his money.  
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15 Second, the County does not provide any type of hearing prior to taking the  
16 property and then places the burden on the individual (Mr. Huss) to get his money  
17 back. Third, there are no procedural safeguards guaranteeing that Mr. Huss’s  
18 property will be returned in the event that that he is not charged or is acquitted.  
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20 Thus, the risk of erroneously depriving an individual of his property is  
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22 unreasonably high.  
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24 Finally, the third Matthews factor requires consideration of the State’s  
25 interest in the fiscal and administrative burden that additional or substitute

procedural requirements would entail. Nguyen v. Dep't of Health Med. Quality Assurance Comm'n, 144 Wash.2d 516, 532, 29 P.3d 689 (2001). In Redmond, the Court explained why a mandatory hearing was essential prior to depriving an individual of their driver's license: "[t]he hearing requirement is for the benefit of the few, [like Mr. Huss], who should not have had their money seized." 151 Wash.2d at 677, 91 P.3d at 882. The fact that providing hearings for the several hundred thousand license suspensions each year would be expensive or onerous was not sufficient to create an exception to the hearing requirement. Id.

In U.S. v. Good, the Court explained that "the purpose of an adversary hearing is to ensure the requisite neutrality that must inform all governmental decision making. That protection is of particular importance where ... [as here] ... the Government has a direct pecuniary interest in the outcome of the proceeding." 510 U.S. at 56-67 (citing Hermelin v. Michigan, 501 U.S. 957, 979 (1991) (opinion of Scalia, J) ("*it makes sense to scrutinize governmental action more closely when the State stands to benefit*") (emphasis added). The Washington Supreme Court has reached a similar conclusion when analyzing a local government's right to violate individuals' constitutionally protected rights for the purpose of raising revenue:

While local governments exist to provide necessary public services to those living within their borders and to avoid harms in their protection of the public's health, safety, and general welfare, exercise of this

1 authority must be reasonable and rationally related to a legitimate  
 2 purpose of government such as avoiding harm or protecting health,  
 3 safety and general, *not local or parochially conceived, welfare.*

4 Norco Const., Inc. v. King County, 97 Wash.2d 680, 685, 649 P.2d 103, 106

5 (1982) (citations omitted); see also Brower v. State, 137 Wash.2d 44, 58, 969 P.2d  
 6 42, 51 (1998) (holding that legislative rights of the people reserved in state  
 7 constitutions are to be liberally construed in order to preserve them and render  
 8 them effective).

10 The primary purpose of the booking fee policy is to raise revenue for the  
 11 municipality. Thus, the County's primary interest was in seizing Mr. Huss's  
 12 property; it was less motivated to conduct the requisite evaluation that Mr. Huss's  
 13 charges were dropped or that he was acquitted, and to refund his money as required  
 14 by law. Instead, Spokane County's official policy put the onus on Mr. Huss to  
 15 have his money refunded. Justice Scalia's advice rings true: where Spokane  
 16 County stands to benefit from the taking, it is necessary to scrutinize the  
 17 government's actions more closely and to require that the County wait until after  
 18 an individual has been convicted before attempting to collect a booking fee.

21 The result of finding Spokane County and RCW 70.48.390 facially  
 22 unconstitutional simply requires that the Defendant wait until the proceeding has  
 23 been completed and a finding of guilt established prior to collecting a booking fee.  
 24 This will not necessitate an additional hearing, nor will it deprive the County of  
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1 any money which it could have rightfully acquired from all those who were booked  
 2 and convicted. Thus, the County's right to recoup its booking costs will only be  
 3 delayed—not destroyed.  
 4

5 Because the Washington Constitution provides greater protection of  
 6 individual rights than the Federal Constitution, this Court should apply a  
 7 correspondingly more protective analysis when considering legislation which  
 8 impacts these liberties. Compassion in Dying v. Washington, 79 F.3d 790 (9th  
 9 Cir.1996). The application of Matthews and Redmond to Spokane's ordinance and  
 10 RCW 70.48.390 shows that they are constitutionally defective because the County  
 11 fails to provide an adequate pre-deprivation hearing and keeps the money even  
 12 after the statute requires it to be sent to the last known address of the former  
 13 inmate. Spokane County's policy of seizing cash for intake booking fees violates  
 14 Mr. Huss's and others similarly situated right to use of their personal property.  
 15 Therefore, Spokane County has violated Mr. Huss's due process rights under the  
 16 Federal Constitution.  
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20 **C. THE STATUTE AT ISSUE CONSTITUTES AN UNLAWFUL**  
 21 **TAKING UNDER THE FIFTH AMENDMENT.**

22 Spokane County's ordinance constitutes an unlawful taking in violation of Mr.  
 23 Huss's Fifth Amendment rights. The Fifth Amendment guarantees that "private  
 24 property [shall not] be taken for public use, without just compensation." U.S.  
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CONST. amend. V; Tellis v. Godinez, 5 F.3d 1314, 1316 (9th Cir. 1993) (citing

1 Webb’s Fabulous Pharmacies, Inc. v. Beckwith, 449 U.S. 166, 101 S.Ct. 446, 450,  
 2 66 L.Ed. 2d 358 (1980)). The Takings Clause has long been held to apply to the  
 3 States through the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. Chicago,  
 4 Burlington & Quincy R.R. Co. v. City of Chicago, 166 U.S. 226, 239, 17 S.Ct.  
 5 581, 41 L.Ed. 979 (1897).

7 In order to state a claim under the Takings Clause, the Plaintiff must first  
 8 demonstrate that he possesses a “property interest” that is constitutionally  
 9 protected. Ruckelshaus v. Monsanto Co., 467 U.S. 986, 1000-01, 104 S.Ct. 581,  
 10 41 L.Ed 815 (1984). As was previously discussed, an individual has a clear  
 11 property interest in his/her personal money. See p. 13 supra.

14 It is well established that an inmate has a property interest in his or her  
 15 personal funds. See Tellis, Schneider, and Dean, p. 13 supra. Spokane County’s  
 16 booking fee policy and RCW 70.48.390 constitute an unlawful taking of an  
 17 individual’s personal property, including the actual funds taken and interest earned  
 18 on such funds. In each of the cases mentioned above the respective Courts found  
 19 that inmates had a property interest in the interest earned on money voluntarily  
 20 deposited in their inmate trust accounts. Here, the money is not voluntarily placed  
 21 in a fund; it is taken without notice and without an opportunity to contest the  
 22 seizure. Furthermore, neither Spokane County nor RCW 70.48.390 establish a  
 23 policy for refunding the interest earned on the funds. Thus, Spokane County’s  
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1 official policy constitutes an unconstitutional taking in violation of Mr. Huss's  
 2 (and others similarly situated) sound constitutional rights under the Fifth  
 3 Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.  
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5 **D. DEFENDANTS ACTIONS WERE BASED ON AN ACCEPTED**  
 6 **MUNICIPAL POLICY. THIS POLICY WAS THE MOVING FORCE**  
 7 **BEHIND THE DEPRIVATION OF PLAINTIFF'S CIVIL RIGHTS.**

8 Spokane County resolution 04-0160 and RCW 70.48.390 were the "moving  
 9 force of constitutional violation". Monell v. Department of Social Services, 436  
 10 U.S. 658, 694 (1978); Polk County v. Dodson, 454 U.S. 312, 326, 102 S.Ct. 445,  
 11 454, 70 L.Ed.2d 509 (1981). There must be a direct link between the municipal  
 12 policy or custom, and the alleged constitutional violation. City of Canton v.  
 13 Harris, 489 U.S. 378, 385, 391, 109 S.Ct. 1197, 1203, 1206, 103 L.Ed.2d 412  
 14 (1989). It is clear from the record that Mr. Huss's property was taken pursuant to  
 15 Spokane County Resolution 04-0160, which was passed in order to take booking  
 16 fees as authorized under RCW 70.48.390.  
 17

18  
 19 The Plaintiff's property was wrongfully taken from him without any pre-  
 20 deprivation hearing in violation of his clearly protected constitutional rights under  
 21 the Fourteenth Amendment and constitutes an unlawful taking under the Fifth  
 22 Amendment. This is the type of blatant abuse of power that flies in the face of  
 23 clearly established Constitutional rights and is inappropriate for qualified  
 24 immunity. Orin v. Barclay, 272 F.3d 1207 (9th Cir. 2001). Even if the Defendants  
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claim that they acted in “good faith,” Washington has rejected the “good faith” doctrine. The exclusion of this doctrine “serves not merely as a remedial measure for unconstitutional government actions, but rather to assure judicial integrity and preserve the individual's right to privacy.” State v. White, 97 Wash. 2d 92, 109-10, 640 P.2d 1061 (1982). In this case, the Defendants had the opportunity and duty to diligently research the law prior to enacting its official booking fee policy. They failed to use reasonable diligence and their official policy and procedures disregard Mr. Huss’s clearly established constitutional rights. This municipal policy was clearly the moving force which led Spokane County to deprive the Plaintiff of his constitutionally protected rights. Thus, because reasonable minds can only reach one conclusion, Spokane County is liable for its actions as a matter of law.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

Spokane County’s official booking fee policy and RCW 70.48.390 are facially unconstitutional. This Court should hold Spokane County liable as a matter of law and grant the Plaintiff’s motion for partial summary judgment.

Dated this 14<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2005.

CENTER FOR JUSTICE

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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on July 14, 2005, I presented the foregoing Plaintiff's Motion for Partial Summary Judgment to the Clerk of the Court for filing and uploading to the CM/ECF system which will send notification of such filing to the following:

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